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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINAI 00983 081318Z
ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 /021 W
----------042104 081320Z /41
P 081243Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION SINAI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3981

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINAI 0983

FOR SSM ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: ACTION ON INTRUSION

REF SINAI 0952

1. AS MAY 4 INTRUSION WAS SECOND WITHIN FOUR DAYS, AND ALSO INVOLVED AN INCORRECT IDF CANCELLATION OF RECCE FLIGHT, I ASKED LEVINSON BRING IT TO ATTENTION MINISTRY DEFENSE.

2. AFTER SFM FILED REFERENCE INTRUSION, UNEF REPORTED AT 1245 THAT IDF HAD CANCELLED SCHEDULED RECCE FLIGHT. WE REPLIED THAT AN IDF AIRCRAFT HAD MADE TWO PASSES OVER BUFFER ZONE BEFORE CANCELLATION AND THAT SFM WAS CONSIDERING FIRST PASS AS VALID RECCE FLIGHT AND SECOND AN INTRUSION AS REPORTED. UNEF SUBSEQUENTLY PHONED FOR DATA AND SENT A CONFIRMATORY VIOLATION REPORT OF THEIR OWN. FYI: ALTERNATIVE WOULD HAVE BEEN TO FILE SECOND INTRUSION REPORT FOR FIRST PASS. FROM FLIGHT PATH, IT SEEMED MORE LIKELY THAT THERE WAS INDEED A RECCE FLIGHT AND THAT CANCELLATION WAS A MISTAKE.

3. I HAD REVIEWED INTRUSION OF MAY 1 WITH COL. FUCHS, SOUTHERN COMMAND LIAISON, ON MAY 3. HE SAID HE HAD EARLIER RAISED AIR INTRUSIONS WITH THE SOUTHERN COMMAND COMMANDING OFFICER, DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE FURTHER VIOLATIONS, AND WAS NOW CONFIDENTIAL

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RELUCTANT REPEAT PRESENTATION.

4. SFM DIRECTOR HAD ON FEBRUARY 2 BROUGHT PATTERN OF AIR VIOLATIONS TO LEVINSON'S ATTENTION AND REQUESTED ACTION TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH SINAI AGREEMENT. RECORD SINCE THEN SHOWS THREE VIOLATIONSPER MONTH, BOTH DIRECT FLIGHTS OVER EARLY WARNING AREA AND RECCE FLIGHTS IMPROPERLY REPEATING

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BUFFER ZONE PASSES.

5. I SENT TELEX TO LEVINSON MAY 4 CALLING ATTENTION TO CONTINUANCE OF AIR VIOLATIONS (NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF RECCE) SINCE DIRECTOR'S FEBRUARY MESSAGE. ALSO NOTED
CASES INCORRECT CANCELLATION RECCE FLIGHTS. REQUESTED THAT THESE OBSERVATIONS BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION APPROPRIATE OFFICER IN OFFICE MINISTER DEFENSE.

6. AFTER MAY 7 INTRUSION, I PHONED LEVINSON AND ASKED WHAT ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN ON MAY 4 REQUEST. HE SAID THAT MINISTER'S OFFICE HAD BEEN INFORMED AND PERHAPS THERE WOULD BE RESPONSE BY MIDWEEK. HE EXPLAINED ALSO THAT MINISTRY HAD INFORMED HIS OFFICE THAT MAY 4 RECCE FLIGHT WOULD NOT BE FLOWN. SOMEONE HAD CHANGED ORDERS WITHOUT NOTIFYING HIM SO HIS NOTICE OF CANCELLATION HAD GONE OUT ROUTINELY. AFTER RECEIPT SFM TELEX, HE HAD CONTACTED UNEF CANCELLING CANCELLATION. WHILE PERFECTLY POSSIBLE, TIMING OF ORIGINAL CANCELLATION WAS BIT CONVENIENT FOR IDF.
ROBERTS

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Message Attributes

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